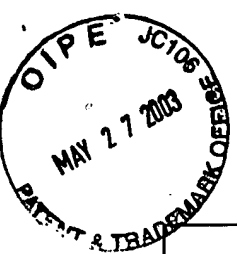


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Our File No.: SPLX.P0073

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*[Signature]*  
Mani Adeli

*[Handwritten]*  
503  
106/9  
11-14-03

**IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE**

In re Patent Application for:

Steven Teig, et al.

Examiner: <not assigned yet>

Serial No.: 10/066,160

Filing Date: 1/31/02

For: **METHOD AND APPARATUS FOR  
SELECTING A ROUTE OF A NET  
BASED ON THE IMPACT ON ROUTES  
OF OTHER NETS**

**PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT**

Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

**RECEIVED**

**MAY 29 2003**

Technology Center 2100

Sir:

Please amend the application as follows:

**IN THE SPECIFICATION**

Please delete the "Claim of Benefit to Provisional Application" on page 1, lines 3-10, and insert therein a new "Claim of Benefit to Prior Applications" as follows:

**--CLAIM OF BENEFIT TO PROVISIONAL APPLICATION**

This patent application claims the benefit of the earlier-field U.S. Provisional Patent Application entitled "Interconnect Method, Apparatus, and Architecture for Integrated Circuits and Integrated-Circuit Layouts", having serial number 60/295,735, and filed 6/3/2001; and U.S. Provisional Patent Application entitled "Interconnect Method, Apparatus, and Architecture for

9'